

CLAIMS:

1. Method of bridging two multimedia stream sections comprising the steps of:
detecting user-selected switching from a first to a second section at a certain
exit time (USEX) of the first section (TS1) and a certain entry time (USEN) of the second
section (TS2),

5 determining an exit location (AEX) based on the user-selected exit time in the
first section, which exit location has a sequence start marker,

selecting all media packets (V_2 , A_2) in the first section associated with the
sequence start marker and possible media packets (A_1) provided after the exit location
associated with previous sequences in the first section,

10 creating a sequence end marker (E) for selected media packets of the first
section,

determining an entry location (AEN) based on the user-selected entry time in
the second section, which entry location has a sequence start marker,

15 selecting stream control information (SC) provided in the second section
before the entry location, and

creating a bridge clip (BC) comprising copies of said selected media packets
in the first section, the sequence end marker, a copy of said selected stream control
information as well as possible filling packets (N),

20 such that the bridge clip can be played between the entry and exit locations for
providing a seamless connection between the two sections.

2. Method according to claim 1, wherein the actual entry and exit locations are
the locations being closest to the user-selected entry and exit times.

25 3. Method according to claim 1, wherein the selected stream control information
is the closest stream control information provided in previous sequences of the second
section.

4. Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting a limited number of media packets (V_3) in the second section after the entry location and also providing these in the bridge clip.

5. Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of selecting a limited number of media packets in the first section provided before the exit location.

6. Method according to claim 1, wherein the media packets comprise video packets (V_1 , V_2 , V_3) and audio packets (A_1 , A_2 , A_3) and the sequence end marker in the bridge clip is provided after the last video packet (V_2) associated with the sequence start marker of the exit location.

7. Method according to claim 6, wherein the media packets comprise audio packets (A_1 , A_2 , A_3), said method further comprising the step of copying non-selected media packets in the first section between said exit location and the last audio packet associated with the sequence start marker and replacing these copied packets with null packets and/or stream control packets.

8. Method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of adding null packets to the packets originating from the second section in the bridge clip.

9. Method according to claim 1, wherein at least said exit location of the first section and the entry location of the second section each comprise an entry point map (EP_1 , EP_2), which are used for identifying exit and entry locations.

10. Method according to claim 9, further comprising the step of creating an entry point map (EP_{BC}) for the bridge clip from the entry point maps of the first and second sections.

11. Method according to claim 1, wherein the sections are provided in the same multimedia stream.

12. Method according to claim 1, wherein the sections are provided in two different multimedia streams.

13. Device (12) for bridging two multimedia stream sections provided on a storage medium (18) and comprising:

a reading (20) unit and a writing (30) unit for reading and writing multimedia data on the storage medium (18), and

a control unit (26) for manipulating at least one multimedia stream provided on the storage medium,

wherein the control unit is arranged to:

detect user-selected switching from a first (TS1) to a second (TS2) section at a certain exit time (USEX) of the first section and a certain entry time (USEN) of the second section,

determine an exit location (AEX) based on the user-selected exit time in the first section, which exit location has a sequence start marker,

select all media packets (V_2 , A_2) in the first section associated with the sequence start marker and possible media packets (A_1) provided after the exit location associated with previous sequences in the first section,

create a sequence end marker (E) for selected media packets of the first section,

determine an entry location (AEN) based on the user-selected entry time in the second section, which entry location has a sequence start marker,

select stream control information (SC) provided in the second section before the entry location, and

create a bridge clip (BC) comprising copies of said selected media packets in the first section, the sequence end marker, a copy of said selected stream control information as well as possible filling packets,

such that the bridge clip can be played between the entry and exit locations for providing a seamless connection between the two sections.

14. Device according to claim 12, further comprising a stream separating unit (22) and a stream combining unit (28) for providing a stream of additional overhead data related to a multimedia stream.

15. Multimedia data presentation device (10) comprising a device (12) for bridging two multimedia stream sections according to claim 13.

16. Computer program product (34) to be used on a computer for bridging two multimedia stream sections and comprising a computer program code for making the computer execute, when said code is loaded into the computer, the following functions:

5 detect user-selected switching from a first (TS1) to a second section (TS2) at a certain exit time (USEX) of the first section and a certain entry time (USEN) of the second section,

determine an exit location (AEX) based on the user-selected exit time in the first section, which exit location has a sequence start marker,

10 select all media packets (V_2 , A_2) in the first section associated with the sequence start marker and possible media packets (A_1) provided after the exit location associated with previous sequences in the first section,

create a sequence end marker (E) for the selected media packets of the first section,

15 determine an entry location (AEN) based on the user-selected entry time in the second section, which entry location has a sequence start marker,

select stream control information (SC) provided in the second section before the entry location, and

20 create a bridge clip (BC) comprising copies of said selected media packets in the first section, the sequence end marker, a copy of said selected stream control information as well as possible filling packets (N),

such that the bridge clip can be played between the entry and exit locations for providing a seamless connection between the two sections.